

III. Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 15-22 are pending in the application. Claim 15 is independent. Claims 15-22 have been added. Claims 1-14 have been cancelled.

Support for newly added Claims 15-22 may be found, for example, at page 7, lines 2 through page 8, line 21 and page 12, lines 1-17 of the specification. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

In the March 9, 2005 Office Action, Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-12, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,031,827 to Rikkinen, et al. ("Rikkinen"), and Claims 5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Rikkinen. These rejections are traversed. However, solely to advance prosecution, and while reserving the right to pursue these patentable claims at a later time, Claims 1-12 and 14 have been cancelled, thus rendering these rejections moot.

Newly added independent Claim 15 recites a wireless communication system for communication between a base station and a plurality of subscriber stations. The system comprises a channel structure for the plurality of subscriber stations to communicate with the base station. The channel structure includes a plurality of bi-directional dedicated channels and a bi-directional user control channel. A subscriber station, when activated within the communication system, is allocated a portion of the user control channel, but when a dedicated channel is established between the

subscriber station and the base station, then the portion of the user control channel allocated to the subscriber station is de-allocated from the subscriber station until the dedicated channel is de-allocated from the subscriber station.

Rikkinen is directed to a method for radio resource control. At column 15, line 55 through column 16, line 9, Rikkinen provides a disclosure relating to control channels. For example, at column 15, lines 59-66, the following text is provided: "One two-way logic channel per connection can be called a SCCH channel (system control channel) The SCCH channel is used for the whole duration of the active data transmission period." Accordingly, the disclosure in Rikkinen that is relevant to the use of control channels describes separate control channels on a per-connection basis that persist for the whole duration of the active transmission. Therefore, the control channels in Rikkinen are equivalent to dedicated control channels.

By contrast, in the present invention as recited in independent Claim 15, the control channel is not dedicated, but instead is shared at any particular time on a slot-by-slot basis among those subscriber stations that are not allocated a dedicated channel at that time. In addition, there is no disclosure in Rikkinen relating to allocation and deallocation of dedicated channels or slots in frames transmitted over a control channel, as also recited in independent Claim 15. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent Claim 15 is allowable over Rikkinen for the reasons described above. In addition, each of Claims 16-22 depends from independent Claim 15, and each is therefore allowable over Rikkinen for the same reasons.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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